

## REMARKS

Claims 1-2, 8-11, and 15-16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chuah (U.S. Patent No. 6,449,272). Claims 17 and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chuah (U.S. Patent No. 6,449,272) further in view of Towsley et al. entitled "Layer Two Tunneling Protocol (L2TP) Network Working Group Request for Comment 2661 dated August 1999 which is an IDS document of record.

In addition, Claims 3-7, 12-14, and 18 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The June 4, 2003 Office Action again stated that the drawings in this application are objected to by the Draftsperson as informal. Applicants will submit formal drawings once a final resolution in this case is achieved.

Applicants have cancelled Claims 1-2, 8-11, 15-17, and 19 without prejudice. In addition, Applicants have rewritten Claims 3-7, 12-14, and 18 to include all of the limitations of any base claim and any intervening claims. It is submitted, therefore, that the remaining pending Claims 3-7, 12-14, and 18 are in a condition for allowance and early notice to this effect is earnestly solicited.

If for any reason, the patent application is not considered to be in condition for allowance and an interview would be helpful to resolve any remaining issues, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at (312) 913-0001.

Respectfully submitted,

**McDonnell Boehnen Hulbert & Berghoff**

Date: 8/4/03

By:   
Thomas E. Wettermann  
Reg. No. 41,523